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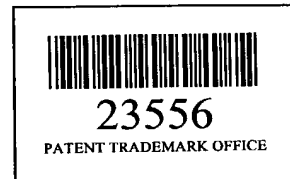
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For: COFORM NONWOVEN WEB AND METHOD OF MAKING SAME
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**Unexecuted Combined Declaration and Power of Attorney
Original U.S. Patent Application
Joint Inventors**

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
Washington, D.C. 20231



Sir:

As the below-named inventors, we hereby declare that:

Our respective residence addresses, post office addresses and citizenship designations are as stated below, next to our names.

We believe that we are the original, first and joint inventors of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought in the patent application entitled:

COFORM NONWOVEN WEB AND METHOD OF MAKING SAME

the specification of which is attached hereto.

We hereby state that each of us has reviewed and understands the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims and any accompanying drawings as amended by any amendment specifically referred to in the oath or declaration.

We acknowledge our duty to disclose all information which is material to the patentability of this application as defined by 37 C.F.R. 1.56.

As the named inventors, we hereby appoint the attorneys and/or agents associated with Customer Number 23556 to prosecute this application and transact all business in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

We direct that all correspondence be addressed to the correspondence address associated with Customer Number 23556.

Our representative may be reached at: 770-587-7204.

We hereby declare that:

1. All statements made herein of our own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and
2. These statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States

Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of this application or any patent issued thereon.

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saponified polyvinyl acetates, saponified ethylene vinyl acetates, and other hydrophilic materials. A polymer generally contributes to the wettability of bicomponent filaments if a droplet of water positioned on a nonwoven web made from bicomponent filaments containing first and second polymers has a contact angle which is a) less than 90 degrees measured using ASTM D724-89, and b) less than the contact angle of a similar nonwoven web made from similar filaments containing only the first polymer. When used as an outer layer such as in a sheath-core bicomponent filament web, the hydrophilic polymer imparts surface wettability to the entire web

Examples of the B polymer component suitable for use in the present invention may include, without limitation: polypropylene, polyesters such as polybutylene terephthalate, polyethylene terephthalate, or Nylon and the like. Other polymers may include, without limitation: polypropylene homopolymers, polypropylene copolymers containing up to about 10% ethylene or another C₄-C₂₀ alpha-olefin comonomer, high density polyethylenes, linear low density polyethylenes in which the alpha-olefin comonomer content is less than about 10% by weight, polyamides, polyesters, polycarbonates, polytetrafluoroethylenes, and other high tensile materials. These polymers can be used alone or in combination with one another as a blend to form the B polymer component of the multicomponent filaments.

The second material of a coform nonwoven web of the present invention may be an absorbent material, such as absorbent fibers or absorbent particles, or non-absorbent materials, such as non-absorbent fibers or non-absorbent particles. The selection of the second material will determine the properties of the resulting coform. For example, the absorbency of the coform nonwoven web can be improved by using an absorbent material as the second material. The coform nonwoven web contains from about 5% to about 99% by weight of the absorbent material and about 1% to about 95 % by weight of the multicomponent filaments. Generally, the amount of the second material can be selected by those skilled in the art depending on the final utility of the coform nonwoven web. The second material may make up from about 50 to about 98 % by weight of the coform nonwoven web or desirably about 70 to about 95 % by weight of coform web. Correspondingly, the multicomponent filaments make up about 2 to about 50 % by weight of the coform nonwoven web or desirably about 5 to about 30 % by weight of the coform nonwoven web.

The absorbent materials useful in the present invention include absorbent fibers, absorbent particles and mixtures of absorbent fibers and absorbent particles. Examples of the absorbent material include, but are not limited to, fibrous organic materials such as woody or non-woody pulp such as cotton, rayon, recycled paper, pulp fluff and also